

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY **East Germany**

SUBJECT **1955 - 1956 Marine Radio, Radar and Sonic Apparatus Development in East Germany**

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1. On 2 June 1955 the Working Group for Radio Navigation (Arbeitsgruppe Funknavigation) met at Funkwerk Koepenick to discuss the development of sonic equipment and radio navigation as contained in 1955 planned projects and developmental plans for 1956.
2. The meeting was attended by the following persons:
 - a. Dr. Franz Heinrich Lange, chief of the working group, representing Funkwerk Leipzig.
 - b. Ing. Werner Kutasche, representing Funkwerk Dresden.
 - c. Ing. Hans Thielicke and Ing. Bielicke (fnu), representing the Scientific Technical Research Office for Apparatus Construction (VEB WTBG).
 - d. Dpl. Ing. Erich Fustmann, representing the Lindenberg observatory.
 - e. Ing. Gernot Chrapeck, representing ZAFI. (Central Office for Research and Technology)
 - f. Captain Kropp (fnu), representing the Ministry of Transport, Main Administration for Maritime Navigation.
 - g. Dpl. Ing. Mittreiter (fnu), representing the Dresden Institute of Technology (Technische Hochschule Dresden).
 - h. Five representatives from Funkwerk Koepenick (names not given).
 - i. One representative from HV Funk¹, Abteilung TVR (name not given).
3. Progress reports on the research development of supersonic echo sounding devices were submitted by the representatives of Funkwerk Koepenick. These apparatus are to be used for depth-measuring purposes and for ascertaining the location of schools of fish. Fishing fleets will then utilize these devices. At present, however, it is considered one of the foremost tasks to work toward improving quality so that these devices can compare with similar ones used in the West. It is not planned to

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construct them for the strategic needs of the Sea Police (Vf-See).

4. Funkwerk Leipzig is now working on the construction of ship-borne radar of 10 cm wave length. The radar equipment will be mounted on a gyroscope stabilized platform. WTBG was given the special task of developing such a gyroscope-stabilized platform. A prototype for large-scale production will not, however, be ready before the spring of 1956.
5. Werk fuer Fernmeldewesen, Berlin-Oberschoeneweide, which had been ordered to work on series production of klystrons encountered some difficulties; it is, however, expected that the first series-produced 10 cm klystrons will come out at the beginning of July 1955.
6. Funkwerk Dresden is now developing a marine radar (Kollisionsschutzgeraet) of 10 cm wave length for the control of river and harbor traffic. The construction of a prototype is to be finished during 1955 so that series production can be started in 1956.
7. Funkwerk Koepenick has concluded the developmental work on marine radar of 3 cm wave length which is also to be used for the control of river and harbor traffic. Three devices, now under construction, will presumably be ready during the first quarter 1956. The problem of whether a wave length of 3 cm or of 10 cm will better serve this purpose is still under discussion.
8. WTBG and the Lindenberg observatory are now working on a device for the measurement of high altitude winds (Hoeohenwind-Radar) for the meteorological service. The wave length used for this instrument will be 3 cm, the range will be 150 kilometers. Automatic tracking of a balloon will provide altitude and distance values for the purpose of assessing upper altitude wind conditions. It is planned to have a test model ready by the summer of 1956. The transmitting and receiving parts of this apparatus will be manufactured by Funkwerk Koepenick in connection with the construction of the above-mentioned three marine radar sets.
9. Captain Kropp (fnu) criticized the present state of development of marine radar equipment and radio navigation devices in East Germany which has not even surpassed the 1870 level. He also criticized the unnecessary secretive handling of communications equipment which he pointed out was sold on the open market.
10. Negotiations between the Main Administration for Maritime Navigation and firms concerning the delivery of direction-finding radio goniometers were also discussed at this meeting. Merchant ships and fishing fleets are to be equipped with these devices. Funkwerk Koepenick is now concerned with the development of such a radio goniometer, but the matter has become complicated because of the interposition of the Ministry of the Interior in the matter. The Ministry presented special requirements having to do with the size of goniometer antennas in use which the Ministry considered to be too large. Further discussion, however, was discontinued because this subject was considered belonging within the jurisdiction of the Working Circle for Antennas. This involves additional complications and therefore a considerable delay in the development of this device.
11. A study on radio navigation is now being prepared by the Main Administration for Radio Communications concerning distance orientation (DECCA, etc.) for the use of air and maritime navigation. Because of the extremely high expenses which would surpass the billion mark (in DM) by far, it would be very difficult for East Germany and the other Soviet Bloc countries to develop a radio navigation system different from that used in countries. For this reason, the participants at the meeting stated that the radio navigation system as utilized should be adopted. In such a case, the manufacture of equipment for the use of air and maritime navigation could possibly be licensed. It is probable that the above-mentioned study will contain such a suggestion.
1. Comment: Probably the Main Administration for Radio Communication within the Ministry of Post and Communications.

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